REMARKS:

This communication is in response to the detailed Office Action mailed November 30, 2004. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, and 6. The Examiner's comments and rejections are addressed below:

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the abstract because it does not assist readers in deciding whether there is a need to consult the full patent text for details. As a result, Applicant has revised the abstract to include more information regarding the present invention that would assist the readers in deciding whether the full patent text should be read, such as the stop bar. The revised abstract now stands at exactly 150 words. Based on this revision, the abstract should be compliant, and Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Additionally, the Examiner has required a new title for the present invention that is indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Thus, Applicant has amended the title of the invention to "Vehicle Door Window Glass Regulator Assembly Using a Stop Bar," and respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. More specifically, the Examiner found it unclear how the distance from the glass rail to the straight line can change when the regulator has not moved. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 4 to recite the straight line also being defined by regulator movement. In light of this amendment, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. However, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in light of the amendments, for the Examiner has not established prima facie obviousness.

To establish a prima facie obviousness, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO") must satisfy three basic criteria. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify or combine the reference teachings in the manner suggested by the PTO. Second, the skilled artisan, in light of the teachings of the prior art, must have a reasonable expectation that the modification or combination suggested by the PTO would be successful. Finally, the prior art reference, or references when combined, must teach or suggest each and every limitation of the claimed invention. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed invention and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in the Applicant's disclosure. If any one of these criteria is not met, prima facie obviousness is not established.

Claims 1-3 Rejections: Wautelet in view of Halliwell

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,497,578 ("Wautelet") in view of U.S. Patent No. ("Halliwell"). But the Examiner has not satisfied the requirements for prima facie obviousness because not each and every limitation is taught by the combination of Wautelet and Halliwell.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite "a slidable non-elastic stop bar between the two sliders." Support for this amendment can be found in the specification. For example, the Figures depict a solid piece for the stop bar that is not coiled so that it does not stretch or retract on its own to an original starting position. In Paragraph [0012], the specification provides that the stop bar be slidably inserted into a gap formed between the glass rail and the two sliders, which means that the stop bar is non-elastic in order for it to be inserted into a gap and stay inserted into the gap. Similarly, Paragraph [0015] describes the stop bar being inserted into the hitching hole to allow the connecting slider and the stop bar to be integrated, which one of skill in the art would recognize that the stop bar is non-elastic in order for it to be inserted into the hitching hole and stay connected with the slider.

As the Examiner has noted, Wautelet discloses a vehicle door window glass regulator assembly comprising a lifting arm, a glass rail slidably connected to the lifting arm, an auxiliary arm hinged to the lifting arm and slidably connected to the glass rail, a support rail for the auxiliary arm and first and second sliders. The first slider slidably connects the lifting arm to the glass rail, and the second slider slidably connects the auxiliary arm to the glass

rail, with a slidably stop bar between the two sliders, rotation point, and hinge point. Wautelet also provides the stop bar with a damper, but is silent regarding the connection of the stop bar to one of the sliders. Halliwell provides a window regulator comprising a tension spring, which the Examiner calls the stop bar, and the tension spring is connected to a slider.

However, should one of skill in the art combine Wautelet and Halliwell, one would not arrive at claim 1 of the present invention. Because such a combination would create a stop bar that is a tension spring, which is elastic and not insertable into confined spaces, such as gaps, because the tension spring would not stay put in a gap by retracting to its original position. Hence, Wautelet in view of Halliwell does not teach each and every limitation of claim 1.

Moreover, one of skill in the art would not find any motivation or suggestion to combine Wautelet and Halliwell. The use and design of the Wautelet "stop bar" is used to cushion the impact of the window as it is raised (see col. 2, lines 10-33). On the other hand, the alleged Halliwell "stop bar" is a spring used to bias the window pane towards one of the guides (col. 1, lines 45-55), so that the window pane can be guided with a high degree of accuracy to form a good seal (col. 1, lines 24-27). Based on the difference in design and functional purpose of the Wautelet and Halliwell stop bars, one of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine these references.

In light of the above, the Examiner has not established prima facie obviousness for claim 1. Because claims 2 and 3 depend on claim 1, the combination of Wautelet and Halliwell also does not teach each and every limitation of these dependent claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim 4 Rejection: Wautelet in view of Halliwell, further in view of Doveinis

The Examiner has rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,497,578 ("Wautelet") in view of U.S. Patent No. ("Halliwell"), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,069,616 ("Doveinis"). Once again, the Examiner has not satisfied the requirements for prima facie obviousness because not each and every limitation is taught by Wautelet in view of Halliwell further in view of Doveinis.

As noted before, the Examiner has not established prima facie obviousness for claims 1-3 with the combination of Wautelet and Halliwell. Since claim 4 depends on claim 3, Wautelet in view of Halliwell does not teach each and every limitation of claim 4 and lacks

the motivation or suggestion for one of skill in the art to combine these to arrive at claim 4. These issues make the rejection moot when trying to compare claim 4 with the Wautelet and Halliwell combination further in view of Doveinis. In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 5 and 6 Rejection: Wautelet in view of Halliwell further in view of Nieober

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,497,578 ("Wautelet") in view of U.S. Patent No. ("Halliwell") further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,243,785 ("Nieober"). But the Examiner has not satisfied the requirements for prima facie obviousness because not each and every limitation is taught by the combination of Wautelet and Halliwell further in view of Nieober.

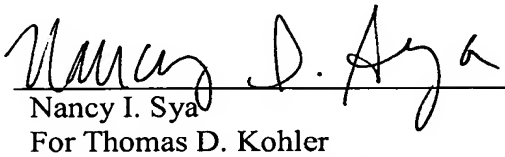
As stated earlier, the Examiner has not established prima facie obviousness with Wautelet in view of Halliwell for claim 1. Because claim 5 depends on claim 1, the combination of Wautelet and Halliwell does not teach each and every limitation of claim 5 and does not motivate one of skill in the art to combine them, which makes this rejection moot when trying to compare claim 5 with the Wautelet and Halliwell combination further in view of Nieober. Moreover, claim 6 depends on claim 5, so Wautelet in view of Halliwell further in view of Nieober does not teach each and every limitation of claim 6 and does not supply the motivation for one of skill in the art to combine them. Based on the above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

Conclusion

In light of the present amendments and the above arguments, Applicant believes claims 1-6 are now allowable and the rejections moot. Should the Examiner have any continuing objections or concerns, the Examiner is respectfully asked to contact the undersigned in order to expedite allowance of this case. Authorization is granted to charge any outstanding fees due at this time for the continued prosecution of this matter to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (matter no. 060945-0139).

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 28, 2005



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